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ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health
for the year 1937

WITH

Summary of Work done by the
Sanitary Inspector



KESWICK :

G. W. MCKANE, RELIANCE PRINTING WORKS.

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REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR THE YEAR 1937

TO THE KESWICK URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to present my Annual Report for the year 1937.

SECTION A

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area (in Acres)	1,272
Registrar-General's Estimate of the Resident Population, 4,437 (53 less than 1936)	
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1937) according to Rate Book	... 1,372
New Houses erected, 27	Houses Demolished, 3
Rateable Value, £33,606	
Sum represented by a Penny Rate, £135 12s. 7d.	

Extracts from Vital Statistics of the Year

		Total.	Males.	Females.
Live Births	{ Legitimate	51	31	20
	{ Illegitimate	2	0	2
Live Birth Rate per thousand of the Estimated Resident Population				
		...	...	11'94
		Total.	Males.	Females.
Still Births	{ Legitimate	2	0	2
	{ Illegitimate	0	0	0
Rate per thousand Live and Still Births, 36'36				

			Total.	Males.	Females.
Deaths	...	...	75	35	40

Crude Death Rate per thousand of the Estimated
Population 16.9

Adjusted Death Rate per thousand of the Estimated
Population 13.5

Puerperal Sepsis, 0

Other Puerperal Causes, 0

Death Rate of Still Births per thousand of Estimated
Population 45

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :—

All Infants per 1,000 Live Births	...	...	56.6
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Live Births	...	...	58.8
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	...	...	0

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	...	...	...	9
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	...	...	...	0
Deaths from Diarrhœa (under 2 years of age)	...	...	...	1

Deaths of 35 Males and 40 Females were due to :—

Heart Disease	...	17	Tuberculosis of		
Cancer	...	9	Respiratory System	...	2
Senility	...	7	Bronchitis	...	1
Cerebral Hæmorrhage...	...	6	Other Violence	...	1
Influenza	...	4	Other Liver Diseases	...	1
Other Circulatory Diseases	...	4	Diarrhœa	...	1
Acute & Chronic Nephritis	...	4	Appendicitis	...	1
Pneumonia	...	3	Premature Birth	...	1
Other Dig. Diseases	...	2	Other defined diseases	...	4
Other Respiratory Diseases	...	2	Ill-defined Causes	...	5

Vital Statistics, Year Ended 31st December, 1937

	Birth Rate.	Crude Death Rate.	Adjusted Death Rate.	Infantile Mortality Rate.
Administrative County of Cumberland	16'0	14'4	13'8	61
Urban Districts of Cumberland	16'9	13'8	13'9	59
Rural Districts of Cumberland	15'3	14'6	13'3	63
Keswick Urban District	11'94	16'9	13'5	56.6

SECTION B

(i) No change has taken place in the Public Health Staff during the year, but on 1st January, 1938, Dr. Charles A. Mason took over the duties of Medical Officer of Health.

(ii) Laboratory facilities for the examination of specimens e.g., Throat Swabs for Diphtheria, Blood for Typhoid and Sputum for Tubercle, continued to be efficiently carried out by the Cumberland Pathological Laboratory.

Ambulance, Nursing and Hospital facilities remain as before.

SECTION C

WATER SUPPLY

Again it is pleasing to report that the water supply has continued to be satisfactory both in quality and quantity. Two samples were taken for analysis during the month of December, one at the intake and the other from a house tap in the town, and both proved satisfactory. The analyst's report in each case is given in full:—

WATER FROM INTAKE—RESULT OF EXAMINATION

	0.1 c.c. colonies	1 c.c. colonies	10 c.c. colonies
At 22 deg. C	2	23	272
At 37 deg. C	neg.	1	12

B. Coli absent in 50 c.c.

Negative for non-lactose fermenting organisms of the coli-typhoid or dysentery groups.

pH.—6.6	parts per 100,000
Free and saline ammonia	nil
Albuminoid ammonia	0.0012
Oxygen absorbed at 27 deg. C in 15 mins. from permanganate	0.003
Do. in 4 hours	0.008
Total solids	3.6
Suspended matter	nil
Total hardness	0.8
Permanent hardness	0.6
Temporary hardness	0.2
Chlorine present as chloride	0.85
Heavy metals	nil

A very pure water.

WATER FROM HOUSE TAP—RESULT OF EXAMINATION

	0.1 c.c.	1 c.c. colonies	10 c.c. colonies
At 22 deg. C	neg.	9	115
At 37 deg. C	neg.	neg.	5

B. Coli absent in 50 c.c.

Negative for non-lactose fermenting organisms of the coli-typhoid or dysentery groups.

pH.—6·9	parts per 100,000
Free and saline ammonia	nil
Albuminoid ammonia	0·0005
Oxygen absorbed at 27 deg. C in 15 mins. from permanganate	0·003
Do. in 4 hours	0·020
Total solids	3·8
Suspended matter	nil
Total hardness	0·8
Permanent hardness	0·6
Temporary hardness	0·2
Chlorine present as chloride	0·05
Heavy metals	nil

A very pure water.

SHOPS' ACT, 1934

During the year 156 shops were visited for the purpose of the above Act and particulars entered in a register. Of these, 35 were found not complying with the Act. In each case a circular letter pointing out the defects was forwarded to the owner or occupier. Almost in every case a satisfactory reply was received. As a result, in seven cases, additional sanitary conveniences were provided.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

There has been no change during the year, but the existing arrangements are working satisfactorily. Complaints are rare.

SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Premises inspected during the year	216
Nuisances or defects discovered	184
Those remedied after informal notice	161
Those remedied after Statutory notice	12

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Sewer extensions were completed in respect of the Lonsties (185 yards) and Fenton (420 yards) Estates.

SECTION D

HOUSING

During the year 16 of the 24 new houses at Brigham Estate were completed and occupied.

Contracts were made for a further 16 houses which will complete this particular site, making 40 houses in all.

When these houses are completed, the number of Council houses in the Urban District will be :—

A 4 Type	...	...	6
A 3 Type	...	...	66
A 2 Type	...	...	57
A 1 Type	...	...	2
			<hr style="width: 50px; margin: 0 auto;"/> 131

Negotiations are proceeding for the purchase of additional land near the Brigham Estate for the erection of further houses.

1. INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts)	126
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	172
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included in sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925	31
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose ...	53
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation	11
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation	20

2. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES —

Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers	14
--	----

3. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR—

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs ...	4
---	---

(2) Number of dwelling houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	4
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	0

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied	16
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :—	
(a) By owners	15
(b) By local authority in default of owners ...	0

C.—Proceedings under sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	0
(2) Number of dwelling houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	0

D.—Proceedings under section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936 :—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made	0
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	0

4. HOUSING ACT, 1936. PART IV. OVERCROWDING.

(a) (I)	Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year	16
(II)	Number of families dwelling therein ...	17
(III)	Number of persons dwelling therein ...	110
(b)	Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	0
(c) (I)	Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	6
(II)	Number of persons concerned in such cases ...	39

SECTION E

MILK SUPPLY

The number of Licenses to sell Tuberculin Tested Milk issued during the year was two. In both cases the milk sold was produced outside the Keswick Urban District.

The total number of Milk Samples taken was 24, of which seven were from Cowkeepers in the Keswick Urban area and 17 from outside sources.

Of the 24 samples, 14 were reported satisfactory in all respects, two were satisfactory under the Methylene Blue Test but not satisfactory for the presence of Coliform Bacilli; four proved satisfactory for the presence of Coliform Bacilli but unsatisfactory under the Methylene Blue Test.

Four samples, all from outside sources, were unsatisfactory under both headings.

All the 24 samples proved negative for Tubercle.

In each case a copy of the result was immediately forwarded to the purveyor concerned and also to the Medical Officer of Health for the outside district where the milk was produced.

CARCASES INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed (if known)	336	0	55	3150	290
Number inspected ...	242	0	23	2012	136

ALL DISEASES EXCEPT TUBERCULOSIS

Whole carcases condemned	0	0	0	0	0
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	0	0	0	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuber- culosis ...	2.48	0	0	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS ONLY

Whole carcases condemned	1	0	0	0	1
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	2	0	0	0	0
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	1.24	0	0	0	.73

Factories, Workshops and Workplaces

1—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS & WORKPLACES

Premises	Inspection	Written Notice	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories (including Factory Laundries) ...	21	7	0
Workshops (including Work- shop Laundries) ...	27	4	0
Workplaces ...	0	0	0
	—	—	—
	48	11	0

2—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES

Particulars	Number of Defects			Number of Prosecutions
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Accommodation unsuitable or defective ...	16	14	0	0
	<hr/> 16	<hr/> 14	<hr/> 0	<hr/> 0

SECTION F

General

The incidence of Notifiable Disease (other than Tuberculosis) during the year 1937 is set out in the following form :—

Disease	Total Cases Notified	Cases admitted to Hospital	Total Deaths
Smallpox ...	0	0	0
Scarlet Fever ...	3	3	0
Diphtheria ...	0	0	0
Enteric Fever (including Paratyphoid) ...	0	0	0
Puerperal Fever ...	0	0	0
Puerperal Pyrexia ...	0	0	0
Pneumonia ...	3	0	3
Erysipelas ...	0	0	0

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1937

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATHS				
	Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		Respiratory		Non- Respiratory		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
0									
1									
5									
15									
25		1				1			
35		1							
45									
55									
65 and upwards					1				
Totals	...	0	2	0	0	1	1	0	0

We are again indebted to Mr. Tom Wilson for the time and trouble, voluntarily given as Meteorological Observer and for his comprehensive report which is appended.

Your obedient Servant,

June, 1938.

J. M. NORMAN.

METEOROLOGICAL STATION

Height above sea level, 254 ft. Lat. 54° 36' N. Long 3° 9' W.

RETURNS FOR 1937

RAINFALL				SUNSHINE		
	Amount Ins. Days	Greatest Fall on one day	Average 35 years	Amount Hours Days	Average 33 years	
Jan.	9'59 on 21	1.22 on 12th	6'38	25'9 on 10	35'2	
Feb.	6'99 „ 21	'96 „ 27th	4'63	45.6 „ 20	53'4	
March	3'04 „ 16	'60 „ 16th	4'01	77'9 „ 24	100'0	
April	2'12 „ 16	'38 „ 7th	3'02	88'6 „ 22	128'8	
May	1'92 „ 14	'67 „ 22nd	3'22	193'8 „ 29	178'7	
June	2'12 „ 14	'53 „ 13th	3'09	134'8 „ 26	178'5	
July	2'95 „ 16	'49 „ 21st	4'14	111'5 „ 25	162'1	
Aug.	3'16 „ 11	'52 „ 31st	5'10	161'7 „ 29	141'8	
Sept.	5'08 „ 15	1'20 „ 1st	4'36	116'8 „ 27	126'9	
Oct.	3'35 „ 13	1'33 „ 23rd	6'58	70'4 „ 22	80'5	
Nov.	1'25 „ 5	'49 „ 19th	5'39	57'4 „ 18	49'9	
Dec.	2'94 „ 18	'45 „ 11th	6'67	35'7 „ 15	25'7	
Totals	44'51 „ 180		56'49	1120'1 „ 267	1254'9	

TEMPERATURES

	Highest Max. in shade	Lowest Min. in shade	Lowest Min. on grass	Nights Frost	Windat Gale Force	Snow Lying
Jan.	56'0 on 22nd	28'0 on 14th	25'0 „ 18, 19	11	4	1
Feb.	53'0 „ 2nd	26'3 „ 28th	23'0 „ 12th	9	—	1
March	56'0 „ 19th	20'0 „ 22nd	15'0 „ 22nd	22	2	18
April	63'0 „ 29th	35'0 „ 1st	27'0 „ 27th	3	—	—
May	71'0 „ 29th	33'0 „ 6th	27'0 „ 6th	1	—	—
June	71'0 „ 10th	41'0 „ 2nd	30'0 „ 2nd	1	—	—
July	74'0 „ 31st	41'0 „ 11th	38'0 „ 11th	—	—	—
Aug.	82'0 „ 1st	40'0 „ 27th	37'0 „ 27th	—	—	—
Sept.	71'0 „ 27th	37'0 „ 21st	33'0 „ 10th	—	—	—
Oct.	60'0 „ 1 & 2	32'0 „ 12, 20	28'0 „ 12th	6	—	—
Nov.	59'0 „ 1st	22'0 „ 13, 14	15'0 „ 13, 14	15	—	—
Dec.	55'0 „ 24th	19'0 „ 18th	15'0 „ 8th	21	—	17
Totals				89	6	37

WIND						EARTH TEMPERATURES			
Month	Calm	North Quadrant	South Quadrant	East Quadrant	West Quadrant	Highest 1 foot	Lowest 1 foot	Highest 4 feet	Lowest 4 feet
January	6	—	14	3	8	44·0	37·0	44·8	43·0
February	7	10	6	1	4	42·3	37·0	43·5	42·0
March	14	8	3	6	—	41·0	36·0	43·0	40·2
April	16	2	5	3	4	50·0	38·0	45·5	40·9
May	15	—	5	7	4	57·5	50·0	50·5	45·0
June	7	8	5	1	9	59·5	50·0	54·5	50·5
July	16	2	4	—	9	63·0	56·5	56·6	54·6
August	17	—	5	2	7	64·5	59·5	58·5	56·7
Sept.	14	1	8	—	7	60·1	55·6	58·3	55·7
October	14	2	10	1	4	56·0	47·0	55·6	52·5
Nov.	19	1	8	—	2	49·0	38·6	52·3	47·3
Dec.	21	3	6	1	—	42·7	35·0	47·2	43·0

ABNORMAL PRECIPITATION

November 2nd and 3rd, 1931,	6·61 inches in 36 hours
November 3rd 1931,	4·86 „
November 4th 1926,	3·32 „ in 9½ hours
December 24th 1924,	3·50 „
August 2nd 1923,	3·00 „
December 2nd 1902,	3·12 „
July 13th 1932,	2·56 „ in 5 hours

SUNDRY NOTES

Thunder heard, 5 days
 Lightning observed, 7 days
 Thunderstorm with precipitation, 4 days
 Visibility less than 1,100 yards, 2 days
 More than one inch of rain fell on 6 days
 More than two inches of rain fell on nil
 Greatest fall of rain, 1·33 inches on October 23rd
 Warmest day, August 1st, 82·0 in shade
 Coldest day, November 13th and 14th, 22·0 in shade

THE WEATHER OF 1937

JANUARY was wet, giving us practically 50% more rain than average, and three days each with more than one inch.

FEBRUARY gave us a northerly gale and blizzard on the 27th, which did considerable damage to trees. Many coniferous trees were uprooted in the plantation, and Crosthwaite Churchyard suffered the loss of many good specimens. Eight inches of snow were measured on the morning of the 8th. Road transport was affected by blocked roads for almost a week, and Railway communication was held up for two days. Many sheep on the fells perished in the snowdrifts.

MARCH. Snow lay on the ground until the 16th, and during the earlier part of the month there were showers of snow and sleet. A gale on the 11th with another fall of $2\frac{1}{2}$ inches was recorded. A southerly wind got the snow away without a flood, though a further wintry spell followed from the 22nd to the 27th, though falls were slight. The month closed with frost.

APRIL was mainly cloudy though fairly dry, and though considerably short of bright sunshine the clouds kept away the late frost which was only recorded on three nights.

MAY. The Coronation month was fine and bright, and Derwentwater reached a very low level. Splendid weather for a splendid occasion.

JUNE started with a showery ten days, which was followed by a dry spell, though we had few really long periods of bright sunshine. A warm spell set haymaking going earlier than is usual for this district.

JULY like the previous month, was showery at first, and the total rainfall was below the average. There were few long sunny days.

AUGUST was indeed a summer month, mostly fine, plenty of sunshine, and a thunderstorm. It commenced with the hottest day of the year, 82 in the shade, and ended with a thundery spell which, in two showers, gave us nearly a third of the month's rainfall.

SEPTEMBER started badly, and on the first day we had more than an inch of rain, and a similar quantity on the fourth. After the first week it settled down to be a fine month.

OCTOBER gave us a dry three weeks, and the lake was again very low. The last ten days were wet, and the whole of the month's rain fell during that period.

NOVEMBER gave us sixteen consecutive and twenty-four fine days. The total rainfall was only 30% of average.

DECEMBER soon plunged into Winter, and on the 5th we were covered with snow. Each day for a week we had snow showers and hard frost. With continued frost, the snow survived and skating was enjoyed for a brief period. Rain and wind on the 22nd brought winter sports to an end. Christmas Day was a day never to be forgotten, for while the rest of the country was shrouded in fog, Keswick was basking in glorious sunshine.

The year has been very dry and bears comparison with two notable records:—1855, 37'40 1919, 43'94 1937, 44'51.

Crops were good, particularly hay. Garden produce was above average, and cottage gardeners appeared well satisfied. Honey was below normal at first owing to the showers of June and July, but later yields were plentiful. There was plenty of reason for those dependent on the land to attend Harvest Thanksgiving, but the crop (I am informed) is still poor.

Fishing in the Spring was good, though as the season progressed it was poor. The low river made it difficult for salmon to pass the Fitz Park weir, and hundreds can be seen in the dubs before that point, a great temptation to those whose inclinations are "fishy."

TOM WILSON, F.R. Met. Soc.

Observer to K.U.D.C. and Air Ministry.

